

## DAT Conference Call Summary 11/18/2008

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RSilva(USBR), PHerrgessell(DFG)

### Recommendations and Conclusions

The Delta Smelt Recovery Index is 2, the lowest on record. No abundance or distributional criteria were met; therefore the 5 year recovery period starts again. The delta smelt fall midwater trawl abundance index for September was 2 and for October was 5 for a cumulative abundance index of 7. The delta smelt caught in the September and October fall midwater trawls were caught in the lower Sacramento River, and Cache and Montezuma sloughs.

The Fish and Game Commission adopted regulations for Longfin Smelt last Friday (11/14/200). The protective actions begin in December, and will be associated with catch criteria. I haven't seen a summary of the decision on the FGC website yet.

The fall midwater trawl abundance for longfin smelt was 0 for September and 19 for October for a cumulative abundance index of 19. They were caught in San Pablo and Grizzly bays and lower Sacramento River.

**Next DAT Conference Call Tuesday, 12/208, 9 am - 11 am. 916/657-4111.**

### Chinook Monitoring

Upper Sacramento River

Red Bluff Diversion Dam – All of the Chinook run passages were lower. The average winter run passage was 1983/day, late fall run passage 360/day, spring run passage 243, and the fall run passage 13/day.

Red Bluff flow is 6,000 cfs and going to decrease to 4,000 cfs by Thursday, and 3,750 by Friday the 21<sup>st</sup>.

FWS posts biweekly reports on the Bay-Delta and Tributaries Project website, at

[http://baydelta.ca.gov/Php/Special\\_Reports/red\\_bluff.php](http://baydelta.ca.gov/Php/Special_Reports/red_bluff.php)

Mill Creek – There were no Chinook or steelhead in the traps last week. Flows decreased to about 130 cfs, and turbidity decreased to about 5 NTU.

Deer Creek – DFG is in the process of re-locating the rotary screw trap.

Butte Creek – no update

GCID – Catch decreased to about 3 to 14 per day. Attached is the season to date catch data from GCID. The catch of older juveniles is low this year, and about like last year.

Knights Landing – No salmon this season so far.

Delta Monitoring the last two weeks

In the last two weeks a few older juvenile Chinook were caught in the lower Sacramento River and Chipps Island. 16 longfin smelt were caught at Chipps Island along with 1 delta smelt and 1 steelhead. 3 splittail were caught in the lower Sacramento River.

Sacramento Kodiak Trawl – FWS trawled 6 days; 56 samples; 1 older juvenile Chinook.

Lower Sacramento River seine -2 sample days, 9 samples; 3 splittail and no other species of special interest.

Sacramento Area seine – 6 sampling days, 42 samples, 1 older juvenile Chinook and no other species of special interest.

North Delta seine - 2 sample days, 15 samples. No species of special interest.

Central Delta seine - 2 sample days, 15 samples. No other species of special interest.

South Delta seine - 2 sample days, 11 samples. No species of special interest.

Mossdale Kodiak Trawl - 6 sample days, 50 samples. No species of special interest.

San Joaquin River seine - 1 sample day, 6 samples.  
No species of special interest.

Chippis Island Midwater Trawl – 4 sample days, 50 samples, and 2 older juvenile Chinook, 1 steelhead, 16 longfin smelt and 1 delta smelt.

Bay seine - 2 sample days, 9 samples. No species of special interest.

#### Salvage

1 splittail at the CVP on 11/6; otherwise no species of special interest.

North Delta Salmon Studies – started last Monday, the 10<sup>th</sup>, with half gate operation lasting three days. 200 acoustic fish were released to the half open operation. The next study involving DCC closed at night and open during the day started right afterward. This second study is expected to last two weeks, to 11/28. They have already released 750 acoustic tagged fish and have 174 more to release. They are being released at the Tower Bridge, Georgiana Slough and Ryde.

#### Delta Smelt Monitoring

Fall Mid-water Trawl – The delta smelt October fall midwater trawl index was 5, the September index was 2, therefore the cumulative September and October index is 7. That is the lowest on record. The delta smelt were collected in the lower Sacramento River and Cache Slough and Montezuma Slough. The delta smelt recovery index is 2, the lowest on record. No abundance or distributional criteria were met for the Delta Smelt recovery index; therefore the 5 year recovery period will start again.

19 longfin smelt were collected at San Pablo and Grizzly bays and in the lower Sacramento River. The cumulative abundance index for longfin is 19, all of which were caught in October.

The November fall midwater trawl survey (#5) is complete and the data is being processed and analyzed.

#### HORB and Agricultural Barriers

The HORB barrier is removed. The agricultural barriers will

be breached shortly. The clean up will be completed by the end of the month in compliance of the permit.

### Operations

#### SWP -

- CCFB – 3,000 cfs
- Oroville - 1,050 cfs
- X2 - > 81 km
- E/I – 14-day = 48%
- San Luis - ~197 taf, capacity is 1.062 taf

#### CVP –

- Tracy PP – 2,600 cfs
- DCC - open
- Trinity – 300 cfs
- Clear Creek – 200 cfs
- Keswick – 4,000 cfs, decreasing to 3,800 cfs on the 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Nimbus – 1,140 cfs
- Goodwin – 250 cfs
- San Luis - 232 taf. Capacity is 966 taf

#### Flows

- Sacramento River at Freeport ~ 9,701 cfs
- San Joaquin River at Vernalis ~ 1,073 cfs
- Delta Outflow ~ 3,438 cfs; 7-day running average 3,378 cfs

### Delta Water Quality

Water quality is border-line. Jersey Point is increasing which can be a treat to the Rock Sough standard. WOMT will discuss the North Delta Salmon Migration Study and the DCC operation effect on water quality.

#### November Water Quality Standards –

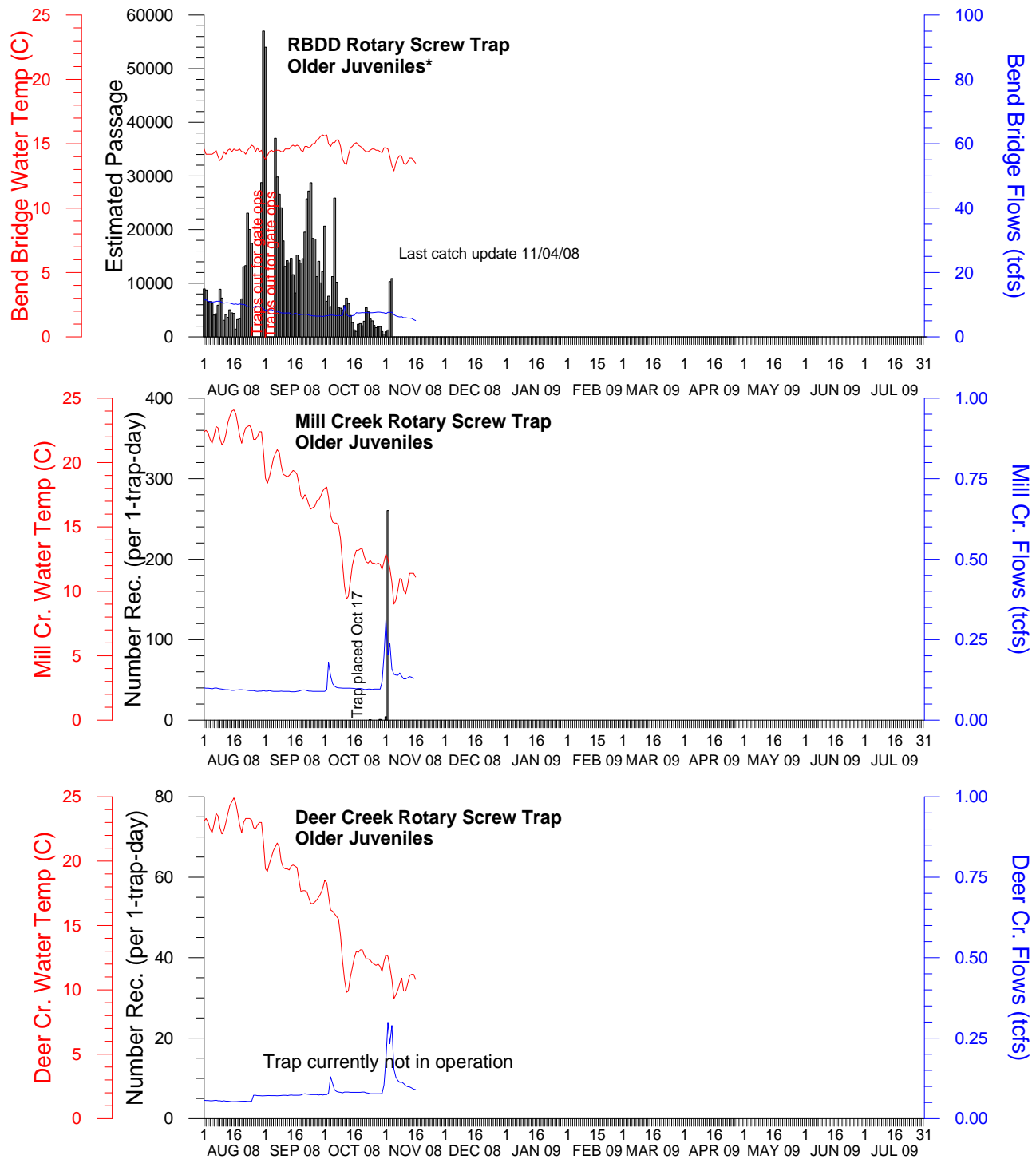
- Delta Outflow – monthly average  $\geq 3,500$ cfs, 7-day average  $\geq 2,500$ cfs.
- E/I Ratio – 3-day average = 65%
- Contra Costa Canal – CI  $\leq 150$  mg/L– this standard has been met.
- Export Areas for SWP, CVP, CCWD – CI  $\leq 250$  mg/L.
- South Delta – 30-day average EC  $\leq 1.0$
- Suisun - EC  $\leq 15.5$  - Eastern / 16.5 - Western, gates are open
- Delta Cross Channel Gates: For Nov-Jan

period gates may be closed for up to total of 45 days.

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# NUMBER OF JUVENILE CHINOOK MEASURED IN THE UPPER SACRAMENTO RIVER & TRIBUTARIES

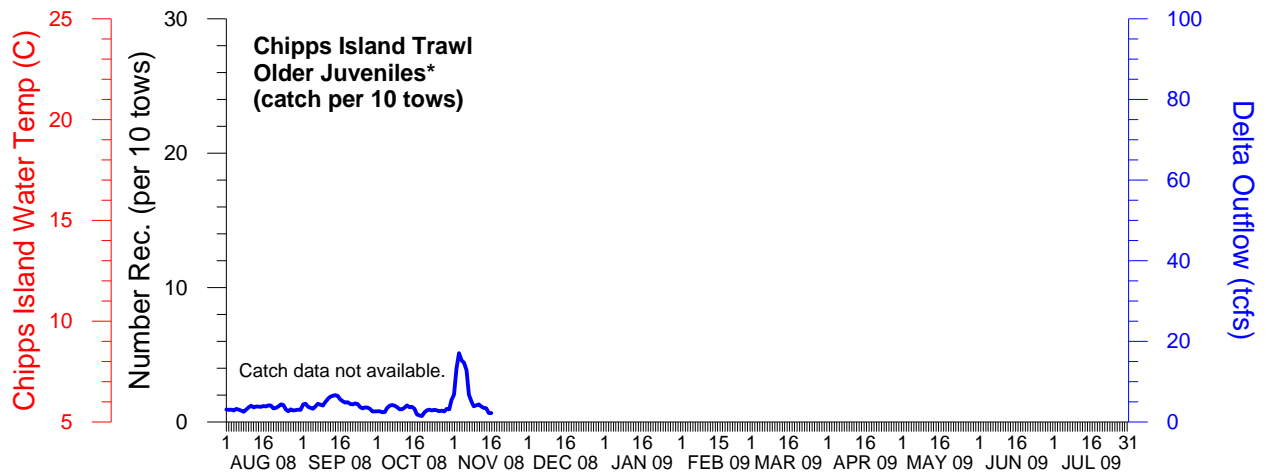
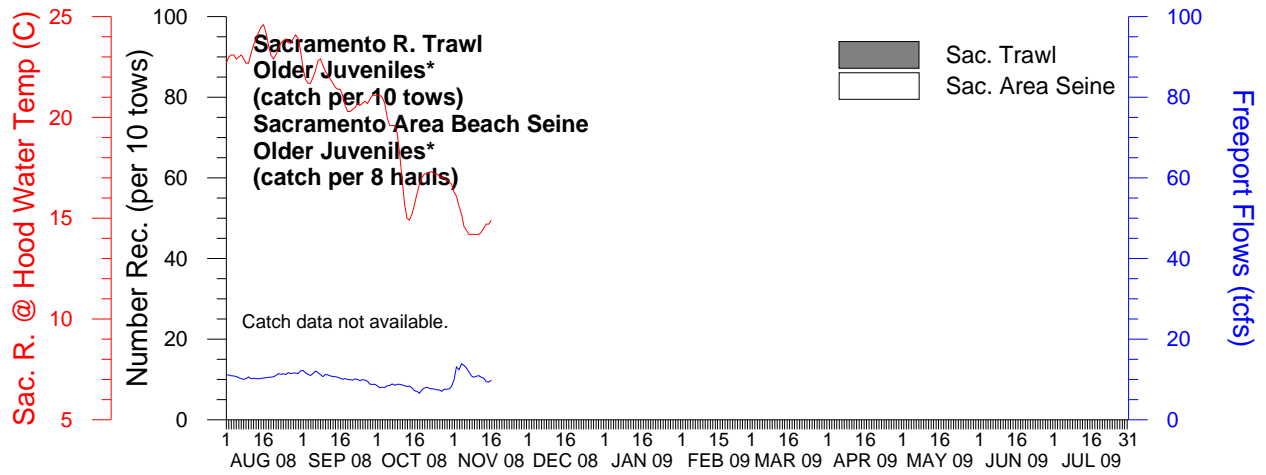
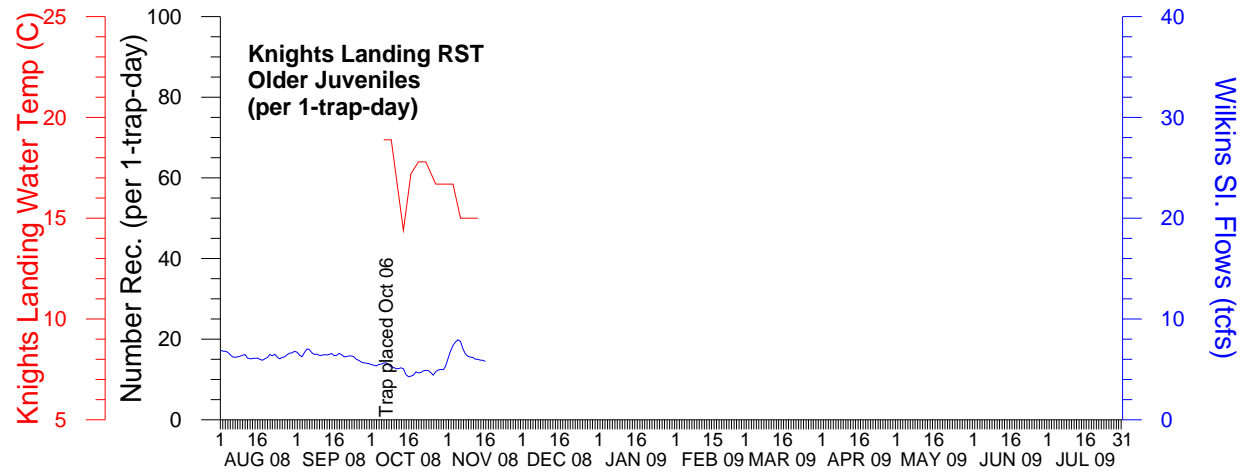


DWR-DES 17 Nov 2008

Preliminary, subject to revision

\*Older juveniles defined as all Chinook above the minimum winter run length line (Frank Fisher model)

# NUMBER OF JUVENILE CHINOOK MEASURED IN THE SACRAMENTO RIVER & DELTA



DWR-DES 17 NOV 2008  
Preliminary, subject to revision  
\*Plus counts not included